

## **REMARKS**

### **Formal Matters**

Claims 13, 15-16, 18-21 and 23-28 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

Claims 19 and 20 are currently withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner.

Claims 13, 15-16, 18, 21 and 23-27 were examined.

Claims 13, 15-16, and 24-26 were rejected.

Claims 21, 23 and 27 were allowed.

Claim 18 was objected to.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

No new matter has been added.

### **The Office Action**

#### **Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) (Jackson in view Treu)**

In the Official Action of October 28, 2009, claims 13, 15-16 and 24-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jackson, U.S. Patent No. 4,623,335 in view of Treu, U.S. Patent No. 5,630,935. The Examiner asserted, inter alia, that the continuously adjustable member of Treu is also capable of acting as a discrete threshold setting feature.

Applicants do not agree, since even if one were to make adjustments by full turns of the mechanism of true, there is nothing to ensure that an exact full turn will have been accomplished with each adjustment, since the adjustment mechanism is continuous and not discrete. To further clarify this distinction, Applicants have amended claim 13 above to recite that threshold pressure levels intermediate of two of any of said discrete, pre-set threshold pressure levels cannot be selected. It is respectfully submitted that this clearly defines over the mechanism of Treu, since the mechanism of Treu is continuously adjustable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 13, 15-16 and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Jackson, U.S. Patent No. 4,623,335 in view of Treu, U.S. Patent No. 5,630,935, as being inappropriate.

**Allowance of Claims 21, 23 and 27**

Applicants wish to extend their thanks to the Examiner for the allowance of claims 21, 23 and 27.

**Objection to Claim 18**

In response to the Examiner's objection to claim 18, Applicants have submitted new independent claim 28 above. Support for claim 28 is found in claim 13 (prior to the amendment of claim 13 in the response filed on August 13, 2009) and claim 18. The Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate the allowance of claim 28 in the next Official Action.

**Conclusion**

Applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2653, order number GUID-134.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: /Alan W. Cannon/  
Alan W. Cannon  
Registration No. 34,977

Law Office of Alan W. Cannon  
942 Mesa Oak Court  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
Telephone: (408) 736-3554  
Facsimile: (408) 736-3564